

**RESTORATION INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES (FUDS)
PROJECT FACT SHEET
DECEMBER 1993
TAG REVIEW DATE: 26 AUGUST 1997**

1. SITE NAME: Tyson Valley Powder Farm and
Lone Elk County Park

SITE NUMBERS: B07MO017300 and B07MO017900

LOCATION:

Town: Eureka
County: St. Louis
State: Missouri

PROJECT NUMBERS: B07MO017304 and B07MO017900

CATEGORY: OE

INPR RAC: 2

ASR RAC: 3

TAG RAC: 4

2. POC's:

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3. SITE DESCRIPTION: Tyson Valley Powder Farm is located approximately 25 miles southwest (on Highway 44) of St. Louis, Missouri, near Eureka in St. Louis County. The total area of the site was comprised of approximately 2,621.69 acres, approximately 4 square miles.

4. SITE HISTORY:

a. Tyson Valley Powder Farm was used as a storage area in conjunction with the production of small arms ammunition at the St. Louis Ordnance Plant. The land was purchased by the Federal Government in June 1941. On 12 December 1945, the site was declared surplus to the needs of the Defense Department and reported to the War Assets Administration. The area was disposed of by quitclaim deed in June 1950 to St. Louis County for a park and recreational purposes. In September 1951, the Department of Army exercised its rights under a recapture clause of the deed and reacquired 2,371 acres. The remaining 249.99 acres remained under the ownership of St. Louis County.

b. In October 1961, all government owned land at Tyson Valley Powder Farm was declared excess and reported to the Government Services Administration (GSA). The GSA assigned the property to the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, who conveyed 1,966.46 acres to Washington University by quitclaim deed in October 1963. The remaining 405.24 acres were conveyed to St. Louis County in February 1964.

c. Tyson Valley Powder Farm was initiated by the Ordnance Department to provide storage of powder, priming, pyrotechnic and incendiary chemicals and to provide test range facilities for small arms ammunition and 105mm projectiles produced at the St. Louis Ordnance Plant. With this in mind, 52 storage igloos, 10 PETN vaults, 4 TNT magazines, 3 chemical warehouses and 80 other buildings were constructed. In addition 4 firing ranges were constructed.

d. Documents found during the archives search indicate that live and scrap .30 and .50 cal. ammunition was buried in shallow trenches at Tyson Valley in the 1940s. Some of this ammunition was unearthed in 1947. It had been treated with mercury prior to burial to accelerate decomposition. The ammunition in question was destroyed by an EOD team. The same team stated that target butts had been decontaminated and the entire site was free of ordnance and explosives (OE) except for an area 290 feet north of PETN vault #1. Other records indicate that 2 unspecified bunkers may have been used for field artillery target practice and that the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission used 5 unspecified igloos for storage.

5. PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Area A:

Size, Acres:	Approximately 1
Former Use:	Popping Kettle Building
Present Use:	Photo Blind for bird watchers
Probable End Use:	Same as above
Ordnance Presence:	Potential
Type:	.30 and .50 cal small arms and corroded empty barrels-one is marked "Cyanide"

Area B:

Size, Acres:	Approximately 1-located 290 feet NE of PETN Vault #1
Former Use:	Scrap Burial Ground
Present Use:	Bird Watching Area
Probable End Use:	Same as above
Ordnance Presence:	Potential
Type:	.30 and .50 cal small arms

Area C:

Size, Acres:	Unknown
Former Use:	Storage Area
Present Use:	Bird Watching Area
Probable End Use:	Same as above
Ordnance Presence:	None

Area D:

Size, Acres:	Approximately 1
Former Use:	Burning Area
Present Use:	Wildlife Area
Probable End Use:	Same as above
Ordnance Presence:	None

Area E:

Size, Acres:	Approximately 200
Former Use:	Target Ranges
Present Use:	Wildlife Area
Probable End Use:	Same as above
Ordnance Presence:	Potential
Type:	20mm through 105mm

Area F:

Size, Acres:	Approximately 2400
Former Use:	All other lands
Present Use:	Wildlife Area/College Research
Probable End Use:	Same as above
Ordnance Presence:	None

6. CURRENT STATUS: The Archives Search Report (ASR) for Tyson Valley Powder Farm and Lone Elk County Park was completed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Louis District, in December 1993.

7. STRATEGY: Areas A,B,C,D and F: No Further Action (NOFA)

Area E: Engineer Evaluation and Cost Analysis
(EE/CA)

8. ISSUES AND CONCERNS:

a. The Huntsville Center Technical Advisory Group (TAG) recommended that an EE/CA be performed in Area E since this area was used as test ranges for 20mm and larger rounds. The TAG recommends NOFA for the remaining areas. The only items encountered by the SI Team were small arms. When performing the EE/CA for Area E, the Project Manager may want to investigate Area A around the Popping Kettle Building and Area B around 290 feet NE of PETN Vault #1 for possible small arms ammunition.

b. Kansas City District has set up monitoring wells throughout the area - to include the areas around the stream, the storage area, the burning area and in close proximity to the barrel that was marked "Cyanide". The monitoring of these locations is "On-going" according to John Vento of the Kansas City Division. Based on the above information and recommendations, the ASR Risk Assessment Code form has been revised by the attached to reflect a score of 4.

c. There are known Federally-and State-listed species occurring in the site area. An on-site inspection by State and Federal personnel may be necessary to verify the presence, absence or location of listed species, or natural communities.

d. Based on the investigation of historical records reviewed, the results of the site survey and interviews, there is no evidence of Chemical Warfare Materials ever being stored, used or disposed of at this FUDS.

9. SCHEDULE SUMMARY: EE/CA

10. FUNDING/BUDGET SUMMARY: For Official Use Only